

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend page 4, paragraph 1 as follows:

FIG. 1 side-emitting illumination device according to the invention;

FIG. 2A is a graph showing the angular distribution of light determined by the width of the paint stripe of 25° degree;

FIG. 2B is a graph showing the angular distribution of light determined by the width of the paint stripe of 45° degree;

Fig. 3 depicts an elliptical rod;

Fig. 4 depicts a rectangular rod; and

Fig. 5 depicts a rod made up of curved and straight edges; and

Fig. 6 depicts an elliptical rod in accordance with an embodiment of the present system.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on Page 6, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

In many applications, it is desirable to have the outcoupled light intensity uniform along the rod. This can be achieved by correctly varying the effective paint density along the rod 6. The

paint density needs to be lower close to the light source rather
than far away from the light source. This is easily achieved by
replacing the solid stripe of paint with a series of stripes 9
perpendicular to the length of the rod 66C as shown in Fig. 6, and
varying the spacing between these small stripes (in the direction
of the rod). Alternatively, the paint stripe can include fine
white dots with varying packing density.